

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1 – 8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) An improved roll-up door and springless latching mechanism combination for a storage unit,

C, said roll-up door (10) arranged and designed to roll-up and down in a vertical opening of a wall of said storage unit;

said springless latching mechanism including a latch plate (62) mounted on said roll-up door (10) and a latch (64) slidably mounted on said latch plate (62) and arranged and designed for horizontal movement between open and closed positions by moving a locking piece into and out of engagement with a slot of said wall of said storage unit, characterized in that

a hole is provided in said latch with a loop disposed directly through the hole, said loop being arranged and designed so that a disabled person can put a prosthetic arm, or hand, or finger or other object through the loop and pull said latch from an open position to a closed position and vice versa.

10. (Currently amended) A springless latching mechanism for a roll-up door of a storage unit comprising,

a latch plate arranged and designed for mounting on said roll-up door, said latch plate having a cut out, and a horizontal latch plate shelf,

a latch mounted on said latch plate for horizontal movement on said latch plate shelf between open and closed positions, said latch having a portion which extends through said cut out, said portion including a hole with a loop provided therein,

said loop connected directly to said hole such that it is arranged and designed so that a disabled person can put a finger, or hand or prosthetic arm through it and move the loop horizontally without gripping it in order to move the latch between open and closed position.

11. (Currently amended) A method of operating a door having a horizontal springless latch mechanism including a latch plate and a sliding latch, said method comprising the steps of,

C₁ coupling a loop to said springless latch mechanism, said loop designed and arranged so that a disabled person can put a prosthetic arm, hand, finger, or other object through the loop,

sliding said latch to a closed position by displacing said loop in a first direction, and

sliding said latch to an open position by displacing said loop in a second direction.
